

Explanation for Item 9:

On Page 2 of the Brief, under heading (2), RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES, Applicant states that there are no known related appeals or interferences. Accordingly, no document has been provided for the Related Proceedings Appendix.

This application is a continuation of Application No. 08/239,313, now U.S. Patent No. 5,785,809, which is a continuation-in-part of Application No. 07/518,935, abandoned after a BPAI decision rendered on March 10, 1994 affirmed the examiner. The decision therein may have a bearing on the Board's decision in this Appeal.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Eric Hug whose telephone number is 571 272-1192.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Steven Griffin can be reached on 571 272-1189. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Eric Hug